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Amendment and Response

Serial No.: 10/729,114

Confirmation No.: 3162

Filed: 5 December 2003

For: WOUND DRESSINGS AND METHODS

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:
 - a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix;
 - an optional plasticizing agent; and
 - hydrophilic organic microparticles;

wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition.
2. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the composition comprises a plasticizing agent.
4. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 10 microns or less.
5. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 4 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 1 micron or less.

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6. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 5 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 0.5 micron or less.

7. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises 1 to 225 apertures per square centimeter.

8. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises apertures having an average opening size of 0.1 millimeter to 0.5 centimeter.

9. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise an amine-containing organic polymer.

10. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 9 wherein the amine-containing organic polymer microparticles comprise a quaternary ammonium salt of an organic polymer.

11. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 10 wherein the microparticles comprise a cationic homopolymer of the methyl chloride quaternary salt of 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl methacrylate.

12. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise a copolymer of sodium acrylate and acrylic acid.

13. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles are in the form of a dispersion.

14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition further comprises a bioactive agent.

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15. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 14 wherein the bioactive agent is an antimicrobial agent.

16. (Currently Amended) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the polymer composition further comprises one or more additional additives ~~an additive selected from the group consisting of a tackifier, a crosslinking agent, a stabilizer, a compatibilizer, an extruding aid, a filler, a pigment, a dye, a swelling agent, a chain transfer agent, and combinations thereof.~~

17. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a mixture of two or more polymers.

18. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles are present in an amount of 1 wt-% to 60 wt-%, based on the total weight of the polymer composition.

19. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:

 a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;

 an optional plasticizing agent; and

 hydrophilic microparticles comprising an amine-containing organic polymer;

wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition.

20. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:

 a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;

 an optional plasticizing agent; and

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hydrophilic microparticles comprising a sodium polyacrylate copolymer;
wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected
to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition.

21. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 1 to the wound.

22. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 19 to the wound.

23. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 20 to the wound.

24. (New) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a polyisobutylene, polyethylene-propylene rubber, polyethylene-propylene diene-modified rubber, polyisoprene, styrene-isoprene-styrene, styrene-butadiene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-propylene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene, or combinations thereof.

25. (New) The wound dressing of claim 24 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene.